

## NEWS OF NEBRASKA.

**State Historical Society.**  
LINCOLN, Jan. 2.—Preparations are about completed for the annual meeting of the State Historical society, Jan. 14 to 16.

**Tecumseh to Entertain Veterans.**  
TECUMSEH, Neb., Jan. 7.—The annual reunion of the Nebraska Soldiers' association will be held in Tecumseh Jan. 22 and 23.

**Entire Town Wiped Out.**  
MIOBARA, Neb., Jan. 6.—The town of Lynch, Boyd county, Neb., a small town on the Ponca reservation 30 miles west of this place, was entirely wiped out by fire.

**Small Bank Fails.**  
LINCOLN, Jan. 4.—The state banking board has taken possession of the Commercial bank of Brayton, Greeley county. It was a small concern, having \$10,000 capital stock.

**G. H. Morrill Not a Candidate.**  
LINCOLN, Jan. 3.—In accepting a position as manager of a business enterprise at Havelock, this county, Mr. C. H. Morrill announces that he will not be a candidate for the nomination for governor of Nebraska.

**Maria Millidge Gets Bail.**  
FREMONT, Neb., Jan. 6.—Maria Millidge, who has been in jail for the past five weeks on a charge of assault with intent to kill John Malcolm, was released on bail. She will be tried at the next term of the district court.

**Suit For Damages In Sight.**  
LINCOLN, Jan. 6.—One of the after results of the attempt of the city of Lincoln to refund its bonded indebtedness of \$534,000 is a promised suit for damages in the sum of \$5,000 by Greene & Van Dusen for breach of contract.

**Another New Industry.**  
NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Jan. 6.—This city is to have another new industry in the King Press Drill company. Work will be commenced on the building this week. They will manufacture press drills and employ from 25 to 30 men.

**Nebraskans Invited to Tennessee.**  
LINCOLN, Jan. 5.—The governor of Tennessee has invited the governor and people of Nebraska to come to that state's centennial celebration, which will take the shape of a national exposition, to be held at Nashville next fall.

**Starostka's Injuries Fatal.**  
OMAHA, Jan. 7.—John Starostka, the Pole who was struck over the head by Bartender James M. Hermansen in the saloon fight at Seventh and Leavenworth streets, died at St. Joseph's hospital this morning from the effects of the blow.

**South Omaha's Postoffice.**  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The bids on the South Omaha postoffice site are now before Secretary Carnegie, with a recommendation that a special inspector be sent to South Omaha to look at the properties offered, with a view of selecting a site.

**Two to Hang at Omaha April 17.**  
OMAHA, Jan. 5.—Claude H. Hoover, the murderer of Councilman-elect DuBois, was sentenced by Judge Scott to be hanged Friday, April 17, the same day as that on which the execution of George Morgan, the convicted murderer of little Ida Gaskill, is set.

**Davis Sentenced For Life.**  
LINCOLN, Jan. 5.—George W. Davis, convicted of causing the wreck of the Rock Island train at the Salt creek bridge on the night of Aug. 9, 1894, was sentenced to imprisonment for life in the state penitentiary. Judge Holmes overruled the motion for a new trial.

**Funeral of Major Pearson.**  
OMAHA, Jan. 7.—The funeral of the late Major John W. Pearson, the "squatter governor" of Nebraska, was held at his residence here this morning. The remains were then taken to Nebraska City. A number of members of the G. A. R. attended the funeral party to Nebraska City.

**Funeral of Rev. Mr. Pillsbury.**  
FULLERTON, Neb., Jan. 3.—The funeral services of the late Rev. Mr. Pillsbury were held at the Methodist Episcopal church in this city. Dr. Tindall, the presiding elder of the district, assisted by Rev. R. M. Henderson of Belgrade, Rev. J. W. Jennings and Rev. Mr. Weeks of this city, officiated.

**Fire at Dakota City.**  
DAKOTA CITY, Neb., Jan. 7.—The M. E. church at this place was entirely destroyed by fire yesterday. The fire originated in a furnace in the basement. The church was built of brick, and was erected in 1873 at a cost of \$4,000. The principal loss of the organ and pews of the church. It is supposed \$600 insurance was carried.

**John Majors Dead.**  
LINCOLN, Jan. 3.—General George received notice of the death at Bradshaw of John Majors. The deceased has been a resident and a business man of Bradshaw for many years, and was connected with the McCook land office during the Harrison administration. He was the younger brother of ex-Lieutenant Governor T. J. Majors.

**New Rule For Live Stock Shippers.**  
OMAHA, Jan. 3.—The new rule compelling the weighing of live stock has gone into effect. All stock will be weighed for shipment instead of being shipped in car lots, as heretofore. The freight men say this rule will prove more satisfactory to shippers than the old after the stockman is familiar with the workings, and the cars will not be overstocked.

**Gothenburg State Bank Resumes.**  
LINCOLN, Jan. 4.—It is announced by the state banking board that the State Bank of Gothenburg, which was closed a short time ago, has resumed business, having complied with the requirements of the law. A call has been made by the banking board for a statement of the condition of the state banks and building and loan associations of the state on Dec. 31.

**Governor-elect Griggs of New Jersey is having a remarkable experience.** Although he is the first republican governor the state has had in nearly thirty years, nobody is worrying him for appointment to office. There are applicants of course, but the governor-elect says "so far all have acted with great courtesy."

Pale, thin, bloodless people should use Dr. Sawyer's Ukatine. It is the greatest remedy in the world for making the weak strong. For sale by F. H. Longley.

## STIRRING DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

**Bond Question Was the Theme of Ohio's Senior Senator's Speech.**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The senate heard a stirring debate Friday the bond question being the theme. Senator Sherman's speech, which had been anticipated with much interest for some time, initiated the financial discussion. The veteran senator was in good voice and his speech was clearly followed throughout. This, however, was merely a prelude to the financial controversy, vigorous and personal in character.

Elkins (W. Va.) sought to secure an immediate vote on his resolution directing that all bond issues be advertised and the bonds offered to the public. Senator Hill attempted to have the resolution referred to committee, but on roll call the vote was overwhelmingly in favor of proceeding with the question. Only six negative votes were cast: Chilton, Caffery, Hill, Mitchell (Wis.), Murphy and Brice.

Hill spoke vigorously against the resolution. He asserted that Sherman, when secretary of the treasury, had made bond contracts with New York syndicates similar to the one now assailed. This brought on a sharp personal debate, in which Hill, Sherman, Hoar, Teller and others participated.

At 5:30 o'clock the senate agreed to adjourn, although the motion carried by a bare majority of one. During the day Senator Morrill, from the finance committee, reported that the tariff bill would be ready on Tuesday, to which day the senate adjourned.

## BOND BILL SUBSTITUTE.

**Provides For Free Silver and Retires Small Notes.**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The senate finance committee has decided to report a senate substitute for the house bond bill, the measure agreed upon by the silver majority. The substitute provides for the free coinage of silver, for the coinage of the seigniorage in the treasury and to redeem greenbacks and treasury notes in either gold or silver.

The bill will be reported to the senate tomorrow.

The silver substitute also provides for the retirement of all notes of less denomination than \$10. The finance committee immediately began consideration of the tariff bill. It is said that this bill will be reported substantially as it came from the house, except that an advance of 15 per cent of the present duty on sugar will be provided for, and the agricultural schedule will be increased to 20 or 25 per cent of the present law.

## VEST GIVES HIS VIEWS.

**Supreme Court Arraigned For Income Tax Decision.**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The senate was treated Tuesday to one of Senator Vest's characteristic speeches. He arraigned the supreme court for the income tax decision; he laid the responsibility for the lack of revenue at their door, when they exempted the "sordid wealth of the land from taxation"; he contrasted the records of the present and past administration; he threw some light upon heretofore unknown chapters in the history of the McKinley law; he denounced the financial dependence of this country and of others upon the moneyed influence. He attacked the president and the secretary of the treasury for their proposition to retire greenbacks and place the circulation in the hands of the national banks; quoted Secretary Carlisle against himself, and, in conclusion, declared the conflict between bimetalism and the gold standard was irrepressible.

The other feature of the session grew out of the introduction by Mr. Chandler of a bill for a popular loan through the issue of postal savings certificates. In the course of Mr. Chandler's remarks the cable replies of the Prince of Wales, the Rothschilds and others to the New York World were alluded to and Mr. Lodge claimed the editor of The World had been guilty of violating Section 5,325 of the revised statutes in holding communication with officials of another government, the purpose of which "was to interfere with a measure of the United States."

## New Utah Member Admitted.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Another brief session of the house was held Tuesday, at which the only important business transacted was the admission of the new member from the new state of Utah, Mr. Allen, and the adoption of resolutions calling upon the treasury general for information concerning the enforcement of the anti-trust law and for recommendations of new legislation upon the subject and on the secretary of the treasury for statistics concerning the seal fisheries of Bering sea.

## TARIFF BILL TO STAND.

**House Measure Will Be Reported Back to the Senate Unamended.**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The feature of the Republican senatorial caucus was a discussion of the advisability of amending the house tariff bill by adding a free coinage amendment to it in the senate. This discussion was confined largely to the free coinage wing of the party. The result of the meeting was the adoption of Senator Quay's resolution expressing the sense of the caucus to be that the finance committee should report the bill as it came from the house with a few verbal changes which will not alter the meaning of the measure in any essential feature. There was no roll call upon this, but there were a few dissenting votes. There was no formal effort to bind the senators to support the bill when it should come before the senate and it was left open to amendments at that stage of the proceedings.

**Pushing Transmississippi Exposition.**  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The plan to have a Transmississippi exposition in Omaha in 1898 is rapidly gaining favor in the national capital. Nebraska people holding government positions here are highly excited over the perceptible progress the movement has made in the past two months, and there is talk of forming an association of Nebraska people in Washington for the sole purpose of advancing the project.

**SECRETARY Morton is compelled to admit to the farmers of the country that the value of American sheep declined from \$125,909,246 in 1893 to \$89,186,110 in 1894; attributes the falling off mainly to the ravages of dogs. If the dogs added \$36,000,000 in one year to their surreptitious rations of mutton they are playing a singularly mean trick on a suffering Administration.**

Smoke Wright's Royal Sports and Havana Rose 5-cent cigars.

## AN ARTIST IN CRIME.

BY RODRIGUES OTTOLENGUI

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[CONTINUED.]

## CHAPTER X.

ALI BABA AND THE FORTY THIEVES.

After reading the foregoing Mr. Barnes carefully looked his diary in his cabinet and immediately after left the house on his way to New York. Reaching there, he proceeded up town, finally ringing the doorbell of the Van Rawlston mansion. He requested to see the master of the house upon urgent business, and that gentleman soon presented himself.

"Mr. Van Rawlston," said Mr. Barnes, "I am a detective. May I have a few moments of strictly private conversation with you?"

"Certainly," was the reply. "Step into my study. We will be entirely safe from prying ears there." A moment later the two men were seated in comfortable leather chairs facing each other.

"Mr. Van Rawlston," began the detective, "to explain my purpose at once I have only to say that I desire your permission to attend the masquerade which will be held here tonight. I am aware that this must seem an odd request, but I make it entirely in your own interests."

"If you will explain more fully, sir, I may be quite willing to grant your request," said the other.

"You should know that a masquerade is a dangerous game of entertainment. At such affairs large robberies have often been committed—the thieves operating boldly and escaping through the aid of their disguises. I have good reason for believing that such a crime is contemplated tonight."

"My dear sir, impossible! Why, no one will be admitted save those with whom we are well acquainted. Tickets have been issued by the society which gives the festival, and every one must unmask before being allowed to enter. Therefore, while I am grateful to you for your warning, I hardly think that I need your services."

"Mr. Van Rawlston, I regret to say that you are mistaken. In the first place your close scrutiny of all who enter will probably be relaxed as the night wears on. Again, there are ways of getting in unperceived, and once within the thief would be unsuspected. But this is no guesswork on my part. I do not think, I know, that unless I am here to prevent it a robbery will be committed. Indeed I may even fail to prevent it."

"Why, sir, you speak as though you know the person who is to play the criminal."

"I do. For several weeks my men have been watching certain suspicious parties. From data furnished by my spies I am sure that plans have been perfected by which one or more of your guests will be robbed during the progress of the entertainment."

"Still it seems incredible. As I have said, no one will be able to enter without our knowledge."

"Of course I cannot intrude upon you, Mr. Van Rawlston, but if you are obliged to appeal to the police tomorrow for the recovery of stolen property you alone will be to blame if the thief shall have had several hours the start of us. I have warned you. That is the best I can do. I wish you good morning."

Mr. Barnes rose to go, but Mr. Van Rawlston stopped him.

"One moment," said he. "If you are so sure that there is a scheme of robbery afoot, of course I must not be so rash as to refuse your aid. What do you advise? We could postpone the festival."

"By no means. The course to pursue is to keep what I have told you strictly secret—in fact, if possible, dismiss it entirely from your mind, so that by your behavior the thief may not know that suspicious have been aroused. Do as I requested at first, and as I know my men I will be able to keep an eye upon him should he be present."

"I suppose it must be as you say. But you must be in costume. I have it! The committee have ordered some costume which they will give to those who come unprovided. You may have one of those."

"What costume shall I ask for?"

"Oh, they are all alike! They are the Forty Thieves!" Mr. Barnes was surprised. "Is not that an odd costume?"

"Oh, no! It was Mr. Mitchell's idea. He is the chairman of the committee. He argued that rather than provide a lot of meaningless dominoes the strangers, who will be chiefly invited guests who are not members of the society, may be thus garbed and still fall into the scheme of the evening, which is that every one shall play the part of some character of the Arabian Nights."

"Very well, Mr. Van Rawlston, for once the detective will don the garb of a thief. After all, you know the adage, 'It takes a thief to catch a thief.'"

"Very good, Mr. Barnes—I believe that is the name on our card? Yes. Well, come tonight early, and you shall be fitted out. Later, if you should wish to speak to me, I shall be dressed as the sultan, a character about as foreign to my true self as yours will be to you."

Mr. Barnes left the house thoroughly satisfied with the result of his visit. In the first place he had learned something. Mr. Mitchell had decided upon the costume of the guests. He had arranged that at least 40 of them should be dressed alike. Could there have been any secret design in this? If so, Mr. Barnes was glad to be one of the 40. Again, this would be better than to use the Aladdin costume, for the reason that he had come to count Mr. Mitchell as so clever that it would not have astonished him that this Aladdin costume had been ordered. In that case the absence of such a costume among the guests would condemn the conspirators. Mr. Barnes had fully decided that more than one person was interested in the approaching evening.

As early as 9 o'clock the maskers began to arrive at the home of the Van Rawltons. The host appeared for the time in evening dress and received and welcomed his guests, all of whom wore wraps that covered their costumes, thus hiding the disguises which they meant to use later on. Mr. Barnes was on hand early and loitered about the hall in his thief's garb, scanning the faces of all as

they passed in. After a very brief period of waiting he saw the Remsen party alight from their carriage, escorted by Mr. Randolph. Soon after Mr. Thaurer entered. He handed a note to Mr. Van Rawlston, who upon reading it at once shook him cordially by the hand. Then almost as suddenly an expression of suspicion passed across his face, and he looked toward Mr. Barnes, who, however, turned away, refusing to notice his glance of inquiry. Evidently the host, not knowing Mr. Thaurer and remembering the detective's words, had begun to suspect that perhaps the note which he had just read was fraudulent. Mr. Barnes was fearful that he would make some remark which would ruin everything, when to his intense relief Miss Remsen came into the hall with her wraps still on and went directly up to Mr. Thaurer.

"How are you this evening, Mr. Thaurer? I am glad you decided to come. Mr. Van Rawlston, Mr. Thaurer is a friend of Mr. Mitchell's."

That sufficed, and Mr. Van Rawlston seemed much relieved.

Mr. Thaurer was not in costume, but he had brought with him a satchel, and now asked where he might find a place to dress. He was turned over to one of the liveried boys, who showed him to one of the rooms set aside for the gentlemen. Mr. Barnes did not enter, for he had done so without removing his mask it might have aroused suspicion. He, however, kept watch near the door, and soon saw a man come out dressed as Ali Baba. This was easily learned, for the committee had prepared handsome badges, upon each of which was engraved the name of the character assumed. These were of burnished silver, the lettering being done in blue enamel. They were worn on the left breast and were intended to serve as souvenirs of the evening. Mr. Barnes smiled behind his mask as he looked down at his, which, to his mind, reminded him of a policeman's shield.

The rooms were gorgeously decorated in oriental splendor. The larger one was designated the sultan's palace and was truly regal in its arrangement. There were no chairs, but soft divans, and many hued alluring cushions were to be found everywhere around the walls. The floors were covered with rugs four deep. The walls were draped with satin, drawn apart to reveal mirrors which multiplied the beauty of everything. The ceiling was hung with garlands, in which were twined roses of all kinds, which made the atmosphere redolent with perfume. From among these garlands hundreds of gilded cages held singing birds, and electric lights made the rooms so brilliant that many times during the evening they warbled in chorus, thinking it morning.

The smaller room represented Aladdin's cave. Stalactites, resplendent with seeming jewels, hung pendent from the ceiling. The walls were made to resemble rough stone, and every few inches a large precious stone was made fiery by tiny electric lamps hidden behind it. The floor alone was unlike a cave, being waxed for dancing. In a grove, up ten feet above the floor, the musicians played soft, sensuous music.

The festival opened informally—that is, while awaiting the arrival of others, those already present amused themselves waltzing, chatting or chaffing one another. Mr. Barnes sauntered about, keeping Ali Baba in sight. Scheherazade came in on the arm of the sultan. These he knew to be Miss Remsen and Mr. Van Rawlston. Ali Baba joined the almost immediately, and a few minutes later led Scheherazade into Aladdin's cave for a dance. Mr. Barnes stood observing them, when some one touched him on the arm, and turning he saw a man dressed as himself.

"We must be careful or Ali Baba may discover our password, 'Sesame,' as he did in the real story."

"I do not understand you," replied Mr. Barnes.

The other man looked at him intently a moment through his mask, and without a word moved away.

Mr. Barnes was mystified. He regretted that he had not been in some less candid fashion that he might have heard the voice again. But taken by surprise as he was, he had lost his self-possession for a moment. If he were not mistaken, the voice was one which he had heard before. He racked his memory for some minutes, and suddenly started as this thought entered his mind:

"Were he not sick in Philadelphia I should say that was Mitchell." He followed across the room after the person, but he saw him go out into the hall, and by the time that he himself reached there, there were at least a dozen similar costumes in a group. He looked them over carefully, but there was nothing by which he could pick out the special man for whom he was searching. He went up to one at haphazard and whispered to him:

"Sesame."

"Sesame—what!" came the reply in a strange tone.

"Don't you know our password?" asked the detective.

"Password? Rats! We are not real thieves." And with a laugh he turned away. Mr. Barnes felt himself powerless, and besides recalled the fact that while he followed this will-o'-the-wisp he was not keeping an eye upon Ali Baba. Hurrying back into the ballroom, he soon found him, though he had parted from Scheherazade.

About 11 o'clock a blare upon a cornet attracted the attention of the frolicking throng. A man dressed as a genius announced that the time had arrived for the entertainment. Immediately every one went into the Aladdin's cave room except Scheherazade and the sultan, and a heavy pair of satin curtains were dropped, so that they hid the cave from the sultan's palace.

The sultan lay down upon a divan near the curtains, and Scheherazade sat beside him upon a satin cushion on the floor. Behind the curtains the committee seated themselves forming a tableau of those not needed being hidden from view behind still another pair of curtains, which were of a gloriously beautiful blue and served as a rich background. Many of the guests, knowing that their tableau would not be reached for some time, passed around and stood crowding about the doorways of the hall, to get a view of the first pictures.

Soft music was begun, when, at a signal, the electric lights in the palace room were extinguished, and the front pair of yellow satin curtains were drawn aside, showing a tableau of Sindbad the Sailor. Mr. Barnes, peeping from behind the red curtains, noticed that as Scheherazade sat on a low cushion in the now darkened palace room the rays of an electric light in

the cove just touched a gorgeous ruby which she wore in her hair. This he knew at once was the same which Mr. Mitchell had shown to him, and which Lucette told him had been presented to his fiancée.

Scheherazade began to recite the story of Sindbad, a monologue for the evening having been prepared which told in a few words enough to explain the sequence of the tableaux. Her voice was musical and her reading admirable, so that very soon there was a silence as of death, save as it was broken by her words. As she reached various parts of her tale she would clap her hands, and at once others entered the scene, grouping themselves to form new pictures. Thus Sindbad was followed along his various travels, till at the end the curtains were dropped for a moment, to be parted again, showing all who had taken a character.

Then followed a pretty ceremonial. Sindbad passed out of the cave room and approached the sultan and Scheherazade. Reaching them he stopped, made a salaam, bowing low with his arms upraised in front of him, and then passing on, taking a place in the room and so becoming a part of the audience for the succeeding pictures. Each of the characters followed his example, until all had passed out, when the next set of tableaux was at once quickly arranged. Again Scheherazade renewed her recitation.

Thus fable after fable was told and acted, the audience in the palace room growing larger after each, so that soon the well managed pictures received generous applause.

At last the committee announced that the fable of "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" would be the next on the programme. The parts to be acted by each were quickly explained, and all was ready. As the Forty Thieves were practically like supernumeraries in a spectacular play, Mr. Barnes thought that he would take any position which he should choose, and so stood through all the scenes as near to Ali Baba as possible. At last the recitation was ended, and the signal given for them to form a line to do obeisance to the sultan. Mr. Barnes attempted to stand immediately behind Ali Baba, and was surprised to find two other men try for the same place coincidentally. There was a moment of confusion, and then Mr. Barnes found himself in line just between the two other aspirants for second place behind the sultan.

That what next occurred may be thoroughly understood it will be well to call accurate attention to the position of the various actors. The palace room was practically dark, though light from the cave room lessened the gloom so much that the figures could be distinguished enough to know whether a man or a woman were crossing the floor.

The sultan, Mr. Van Rawlston, lay on a divan, not far from the cave room and facing it. Scheherazade—Miss Emily Remsen—sat on a cushion beside him. Both of them faced the tableaux, and it will be seen at once that from gazing toward the light if either turned toward

the darkness blindness would result for a few moments. Ali Baba, heading the line of Forty Thieves, came toward the divan. Here he stopped, made a salaam, bowing low, bringing his arms up above the head outstretched in front of him, then parting them with a swaying movement backward he rose erect again. This done, he passed on into the darker part of the room. Next came the first of the Forty Thieves, Mr. Barnes following close behind him. This man made his salaam, bowing low. As he did so there was a slight noise. This attracted Mr. Barnes' attention for a moment, and his eye wandered in the direction of the sound. For the merest part of a second, however, did his gaze leave the man before him, and when it returned he distinctly saw the figure do this: In making his salaam, when outstretching his arms, he allowed his hand to pass just over the head of Miss Remsen, who was looking down, perhaps to become relieved from the glare of the other



Taking the ruby pin.

room. Mr. Barnes saw him deliberately and slowly take hold of her ruby pin, gently withdrawing it from her hair. Just then a clock began to chime the midnight hour. Instantaneously a thought flashed through the detective's mind. At the first note of the chimes the time had passed within which Mr. Mitchell had wagered to commit his robbery. He had thought that the man who had spoken to him had the voice of Mr. Mitchell. He had also come to this place expecting that this very jewel would be stolen. He had supposed that Thaurer would play the part of accomplice and thief, while the principal, Mitchell, was manufacturing an alibi down in Philadelphia. It was evident now, so he thought, that Mitchell had escaped his spies, returned to New York, assumed one of the disguises which he himself had placed within easy reach, and now, on the very stroke of the last hour of his time, had committed his robbery—a robbery, too, which would make a commotion, and yet for which he could not be imprisoned if detected, since his fiancée, at his instigation, would say that she had simply aided the scheme to further the wager, as perhaps she had, since she did not stir when the gem was being taken.

All this flashed through Mr. Barnes' brain in a half moment, and by the time the thief before him had secured the ruby and was standing erect he had decided upon his course of action. This was to seize the man at once and proclaim him a thief. Of course Mr. Mitchell would be able to explain his act, but at the same time he would have lost his wager.

The man in front turned to pass on, and Mr. Barnes darted forward to seize him, when, to his astonishment, he was himself held in a vise by the man behind him. He struggled to free himself, but, taken by surprise, he discovered that he was powerless. What angered him more was that the thief was fast disappearing in the gloom. Determined not to be outwitted, he shouted:

[TO BE CONTINUED.]



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